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## Educational Leadership Newsletter December 2014

Educational Leadership Department, University of Southern Maine

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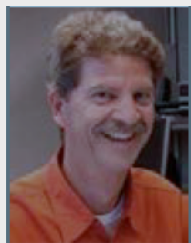
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## December 2014



### From the Chair

Wishing each of you a happy holiday season!

Here are a few of the many EDL bright spots:

- Beginning a new cohort to study for superintendents' certification
- Re-emergence of Rick Stiggins in EDL activities
- Southern Maine Partnership events
- Save the date: January 21st Dine and Discuss 4:00-6:30 p.m. at S. Portland High School
- Graduate student scholarship awards
- Update on the PhD cohort.

Did you know that superintendents' positions turn over every 3 years on average in Maine; nationally it is every 2 years? To address the issue of developing school leaders, Jody Capelluti has worked with the MSMA to organize a statewide cohort of superintendents to be taught in our Educational Leadership program. More information will be forthcoming, but think about the intense need for leadership, more than thought, we invite you to act.

Rick Stiggins is back! He was our guest as a Libra Scholar in the Fall, 1998; Rick and Jeff Beaudry designed and presented four statewide conference on classroom assessment (1998, 2000, 2002, and 2004). He is back with a new book, *Defensible Teacher Evaluation* (See link to DTE Ch 6), and presented an hour-long, highly interactive and

captivating webinar in the new EDU 603, Analysis of Teaching and Assessment course. The course is under the development by Jeff Beaudry and Anita Stewart McCafferty and is aimed at the intertwined challenges of teaching, learning and assessment in the era of accountability. In addition Rick agreed to support our efforts as a keynote speaker at the December 3 conference on teacher evaluation. Rick offers a practical perspective on the fundamental issues of accountability, the balance of formative and summative assessment, the role of students in classroom assessment, and action steps for leadership.

At the SEHD Awards Ceremony this fall, the EDL program celebrated the ongoing development of three of our graduate students, Kristen Foley, Sarah Grant, and Sarah Ritz-Swain. All three are either in or seeking roles in leadership positions, and all three received scholarship support and well-deserved recognition.

Students in Education and Policy Ph.D. cohort are entering their third year, the year that focuses on their dissertations. Most of the students have written and orally defended their first three chapters. Dissertation topics include online learning, teacher evaluation, school finance, immigrants and refugees and achievement, burnout in administrators, and grit in college students. Updates on their progress will continue.

Overall, the health of our program is evident by the continuous flow of students. The ongoing interest and support from you, our community partners, is vital to the continuation of our mission to serve the southern Maine community. Thank you!

# usm Educational Leadership Newsletter

## **Special Education Law for School Leaders: EDU 659**

As a response to recent changes to administrative certification in Maine, the Educational Leadership Program has developed a new course- EDU 659. If you are not currently certified, you will need to take EDU 659 to meet the new requirement. The previous special education law class EDU 682 has been changed significantly and is no longer applicable to meet that requirement.

The course will be offered during the spring semester on Tuesdays from 4-6:30 pm at the Drummond-Woodsum Law office. Below is a description of the course.

### **Course Description:**

This course will provide building and district administrators with an in-depth understanding of all the key legal principles governing the delivery of special education in Maine. Designed specifically for educational leaders, students will also gain a complete understanding of the due process system that serves as the enforcement tool for special education law. In addition, the course will review other areas of law that have significant impact on the education of students with disabilities, including Maine's suspension and expulsion law, attendance law, FERPA, section 504 and the ADA, and relevant employment law principles. Students will participate in multiple problem solving examples with a goal of increasing the ability of each student to problem solve in the area of special education, a central skill for school leaders at any level. This course will focus on those governing the operation of Maine schools at the elementary, middle secondary and district levels.

## **Thinking About Internship?**

### **I think I am ready for the Ed. Leadership Internship. What do I need to do?**

The Internship and EDU 677: Seminar in School Management, should be the last set of courses you need to take before graduating from the Educational Leadership Master's. The Internship can also be taken to fulfill the capstone requirement in our post-master's (CAS) in Educational Leadership program.

**Please notify Jody Capelluti at [jodyc@usm.maine.edu](mailto:jodyc@usm.maine.edu) as soon as possible if you believe you are ready to start the Internship with the next group, which begins at the end of April. Faculty will review your transcripts and contact you to inform you of your eligibility.**

### **When does the Internship and EDU 677 Seminar in School Management take place?**

EDU 685: Principals, EDU 686: Special Ed. Director, and EDU 688: Curriculum Coordinator Internships are nine graduate credits in total (three credits a semester) that span three consecutive semesters (summer, fall, and spring, respectively). The course meets once every two or three weeks for the whole year. During the summer, the meetings take place during the day, and during the fall and spring, the meetings occur from 7-9:30 PM. Individual meetings with you, your mentor, and your instructor are scheduled three times a year.



# Educational Leadership Newsletter

## Southern Maine Partnership Update

**Update on December 3rd conference:** Teacher Evaluation, Student Growth, and Educator Effectiveness: Finding a Place at the Assessment Table.

Over 225 hearty educational leaders from around the State convened at USM to collaboratively tackle the issue of student growth. There is fantastic work going on all over the region and state, and the sharing of those ideas and resources was inspiring to say the least! Our endeavor at SMP is to tackle pressing educational issues in a collaborative manner, while focusing relentlessly on best practices and the infrastructures/capacity-building necessary to support teachers and leaders in their efforts to help students continuously grow and flourish.

Our organizing principles for the conference were:

- Assessment literacy is foundational;
- The work on student growth is embedded in high-quality curriculum, instruction, and assessment systems;
- Successful implementation is dependent upon professional development and capacity-building; and
- Leadership articulates a vision of how the work on student growth supports the aims of 21st century learning for all students.

Jeff and Anita arranged for many of their favorite assessment books to be available at the conference, including Rick Stiggins' newest books Defensible Teacher Evaluation: Student Growth Through Classroom Assessment and Revolutionize Assessment: Empower Students, Inspire Learning. We would also highly recommend Classroom Assessment for Student Learning (CASL): Doing It Right Using It Well (2011) and Seven Strategies of Assessment for Learning (2014) by Jan Chappuis

The following link provides conference resources from each of the sessions, including Rick Stiggins keynote slides:

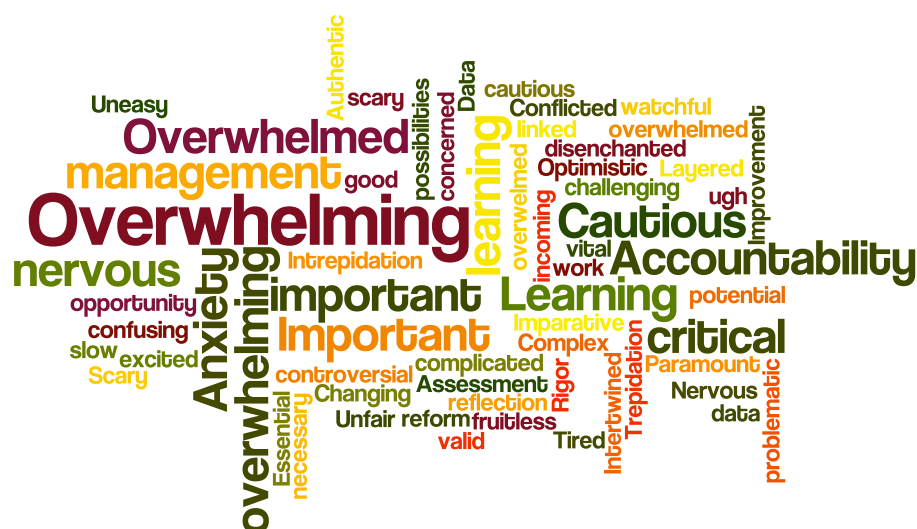
<https://sites.google.com/a/maine.edu/anita-stewart-mccafferty/southern-maine-partnership/12-3-conference>

### Conference Follow-Up -Teacher Leadership Working Group

We are in the planning stages of follow-up professional development opportunities through SMP. As Rick Stiggins so passionately discussed in his keynote, assessment literacy for teachers and educational leaders is key to the success of any of these endeavors. As such, we will seek to provide ongoing PD and resources connected to assessment literacy.

We will also be starting a monthly Teacher Leadership working group, beginning on **Mon., January 26th from 4:00-5:30** - exciting! Watch your emails for an invitation to register for this free SMP 5-month series designed to build regional teacher leadership capacity in best practices around assessment literacy and instructional strategies.

We conducted a pre-post conference survey. One of our queries examined participants emotional responses to the concept of linking student growth and teacher evaluation. What follows is the pre-conference data in the form of a Wordle and the post-conference data in the form of a Wordle. Pretty powerful visual representation of the change of attitude just after a day of collaborating and





**Monthly Superintendents/Central Office & Building Level Administrator Monthly Meetings**

Our Superintendents/Central Office monthly meetings will be held in the 2nd floor conference room at Glickman Library on the Portland campus from **8:00-9:30** on the following Thursdays: **Jan. 29**, March 5, March 26, April 30, and May 28.

Our monthly Building Level Administrator meetings will take place on Tuesdays in 423-24 Glickman Library. Our next meeting will try out a new time **(8:30-10:00 a.m.) on January 13th**. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

**Dine and Discuss: Wednesday, January 21st from 4:00-6:30**

It is our pleasure to invite you to join us at South Portland High School for our upcoming dine and discuss event centered around proficiency-based diplomas. Great Schools Partnership will be facilitating the discussion and several 'exemplary' high schools have been invited to share their progress toward a proficiency system.

FMI: Please contact Anita at [anita.stewart@maine.edu](mailto:anita.stewart@maine.edu) or Patrick at [patrickophillips@yahoo.com](mailto:patrickophillips@yahoo.com)

**Advising Questions? Educational Leadership Faculty:**

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## Educational Leadership Program - Spring 2015

(The schedule below is subject to change; be sure to check MaineStreet.)

Location	COURSE	TITLE/ INSTRUCTOR	Days	Times	Instructor
Blended	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques - This class will meet in Portland on the following Tuesdays: 1/20; 2/3,24; 3/17; 4/7 & 4/28	T	4:10-6:40P	Beaudry
Online	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques			Beaudry
Online	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques - This course will meet synchronously online on Wednesdays from 4:10-6:40 PM during the semester unless on semester break.	W	4:10-6:40 (see note)	Whitney
Portland	EDU 603	Analysis of Teaching & Assessment	W	4:10-6:40P	Beaudry/Stewart-McCafferty
Portland	EDU 604	Curriculum Development	M	4:10-6:40P	Curry
Portland	EDU 667	Professional Ed Capstone (with EDU 699)			Beaudry
Gorham	EDU 670	Introduction to Educational Leadership	M	4:10-6:40	O'Connor
Portland	EDU 671	Organizational Behavior	Th	4:10-6:40P	Phillips
P-Other	EDU 677	Seminar in School Management **	W	4:00-6:30P	Capelluti
Portland	EDU 678	School Law	Th	4:10-6:40P	Forster
Gorham	EDU 679	Eval & Supervision of School Personnel	T	4:10-6:40P	Stewart-McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Stewart-McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Stewart-McCafferty
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 685	Internship in School Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Edwards
P-Other	EDU 686	Internship in Special Educ Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 687	Internship in Superintendency **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
P-Other	EDU 688	Internship in Curriculum Admin **	W	7:00-9:30P	Capelluti
Portland	EDU 699	Independent Study (combined with EDU 667)			Beaudry
P-Other	SED 682	Special Education Law ** SEE NOTE BELOW. This class will be held at Drummond Woodsom Law Office, Suite 600, 84 Marginal Way, Portland	T	4:10-6:40	Tchao

\*\*Instructor permission required; program staff will register students & confirm via email.

If you have questions, contact Kerry Bertalan at 780-5316

**Note: SED 682 Special Ed Law – This section is full. If you are interested in enrolling for this section, please contact Kerry Bertalan at [bertalan@usm.maine.edu](mailto:bertalan@usm.maine.edu) or 780-5316 to be put on the wait list. This is a blocked course so you will not be able to view this course in MaineStreet. It is a non-print course that is reserved for EDL students only.**